

JUDICIAL REDRESS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan H.R. 1428, the "Judicial Redress Act of 2015."

H.R. 1428 is important bill that will help conclude longstanding negotiations to improve the framework for data transfers between law enforcement agencies in United States and Europe.

European nations have long provided privacy protections to U.S. citizens and this legislation would reciprocate that practice.

If enacted, the Judicial Redress Act would extend the legal rights granted to American citizens under the 1974 Privacy Act to citizens of select foreign nations.

Specifically, those individuals would be given the ability to seek access to records private entities turn over to U.S. government officials as part of criminal investigations and they would be able to correct those records if they contain false information, as well as get redress from the government if those records were turned over illegally.

Under the current law, U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents are able to sue the United States for intentional and willful public disclosures of law enforcement information that injures those citizens.

The same rights should be afforded to our closest allies and those we entrust with our privacy protection and hold accountable for reciprocal offenses.

Let me express my appreciation to Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations, Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Ranking Member CONYERS for their leadership and commitment to privacy protection and accountability to our foreign allies.

As a nation that aims to uphold the principles of justice and fairness, it is time that we ensure that all those engaged with our nation are afforded these core protections.

The Judicial Redress Act upholds these principles by providing critical remedies to citizens of designated U.S. allies who have been unfairly targeted by American surveillance and law enforcement activities.

By extending legal rights afforded under the 1974 Privacy Act to citizens of select foreign nations, we all benefit.

Citizens of the United States benefit from privacy protections in other countries, and the Judicial Redress Act provides reciprocal trust and assurances that our closest allies will be treated fairly and justly.

Strengthening international relationships and building trust backed by our government is essential to our national security and economic growth.

Passing the Judicial Redress Act simply is the right thing to do.

H.R. 1428 will ensure greater cooperation among international law enforcement agencies, and encourage these nations to share critical law enforcement information with one another.

H.R. 1428 will also mend critical relationships between American businesses and international consumers by restoring trust that

transnational data will be kept secure and protected.

International consumers will feel more comfortable sharing their information allowing for the free-flow of data and commerce.

This legislation is endorsed by the Department of Justice and federal law enforcement agencies and broadly supported by tech companies and businesses, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Trans-Atlantic Business Council, the Internet Infrastructure Coalition, and other groups.

The Judicial Redress Act is a step in the right direction to ensure continued advancement in the technology industry, international corporate competitiveness, and demonstrated leadership in privacy protection and upholding foundational legal rights.

For all of these reasons, I support H.R. 1428 and urge my colleagues to join me.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MUSEUM TO HONOR AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the National WWII Museum to honor African American veterans of World War II. Most notably, I would like to commend the Museum on its outstanding exhibit, "Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II."

African Americans played a vital role in securing Allied victory in World War II and their service helped to preserve democratic institutions in the United States and around the world. The contributions of African Americans during wartime spanned all areas of the war effort, from military combat to domestic manufacturing.

Unfortunately, the same patriotic citizens who sacrificed and risked their lives in the war effort also faced discrimination in military and civilian life. In many cases, African Americans were denied the very liberties they fought to defend. These experiences led many African American soldiers to a dual mission: to win the war and to secure freedoms at home, a movement that would come to be known as the "Double Victory" campaign. The modern Civil Rights Movements would rise from these historic moments during wartime.

The award-winning exhibit, which opened on July 4, 2015, is a landmark contribution that displays the foundational work by twentieth century African Americans to seek comprehensive social change. The exhibit will remain at the National World War II Museum until May 2016, when it will begin a two-year tour of museums around the country. The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Veterans Braintrust, supported by President Obama and the First Lady, distinguished the efforts of the National WWII Museum with the 2015 Veterans Braintrust Award.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the National WWII Museum for their leadership and recognition of the tireless contributions from all Americans during times of war. The unwavering dedication of African Americans to protecting Amer-

ica's values of freedom and liberty is an example for all citizens.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL IN MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Holy Trinity Cathedral in Manchester, New Hampshire.

I am pleased to join with the Eastern Diocese and Polish National Catholic Church in recognizing this great milestone for Holy Trinity Cathedral and its parishioners.

This is a great achievement for both the church and community of Manchester, and speaks highly to the outstanding services and spiritual guidance the parish has offered to residents of the Queen City and surrounding communities. For the past 100 years, Holy Trinity Cathedral has been a landmark in the City of Manchester, and the recent restoration of the church, which included the awarding of a Restoration of a City Landmark Award from the Manchester Historic Association demonstrates the deep impact this church has had on the community and the significance of its presence in downtown Manchester.

Under the leadership of Bishop Paul Sobiechowski the church and its parish community continue to flourish today by spreading the work and word of our savior Jesus Christ, and focusing their efforts on the Polish American community in the city and Southern New Hampshire. I am proud to join with my fellow Granite Staters in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Holy Trinity Cathedral, and wish them all the best in their future years.

SALUTE TO THE LIVINGSTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department, in Livingston, Texas.

On August 23, 1915, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department was officially established following a decision by the city to give Fire Chief Keenan Peebles full authority over the firefighting equipment, which at the time consisted of three hand pulled hose reels, a few fire hydrants, and three hose reel houses.

During the last 100 years, 275 citizen firefighters have volunteered their time and energy to respond to 24,000 calls under the direction of 17 fire chiefs. Currently, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department has 39 fire fighters operating out of three stations.

Today, thanks to the support of the local community, the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department is as fully equipped and prepared as any department in Texas.